

# ORWIGSBURG HAPPENINGS

*From Where It All Began*

*... Is Happening Again*

No. 105 – Issued Quarterly

BOROUGH OF ORWIGSBURG, PA

November 2020



## *Beauty, Splendor & Fun Event Protects Health/Safety*

### **“Night of Lights Tour” Kicks Off Holidays on Dec. 5**

Orwigsburg’s Christmas celebration will get a huge sendoff on Saturday, Dec. 5 when, once again, our beautiful Centre Square comes alive with music, lights, and possibly a visit by Santa Claus.

The evening will then continue as residents and visitors are invited to spread the “good news” of this joyous season by taking a planned “Night of Lights Tour” throughout the town and surrounding area. The tour will feature five “mystery” homes with exteriors lighted to their fullest as well as a number of designated stops with fun, games, prizes and surprise guests for photo opportunities.

The “Night of Lights Tour” is certainly a departure from past Christmas kickoff celebrations. It has been created to allow for safe social distancing while allowing family units to experience the splendor of the season together.

The planning has been spearheaded by the Orwigsburg Business & Professional Association (OBPA), the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library, and the Orwigsburg Lions Club. Leaders and members of the Orwigsburg Borough, Police Department, Friendship Hose Company, local churches, and individual businesses have all played a major role to present these sights and sounds of the season while mindful of the public’s health and safety.

#### ***Festivities begin on Centre Square***

The public is asked to gather “on the square” beginning at 4:30 p.m. Popular musical selections of the season will be heard as those present are welcomed. The Orwigsburg Lions Club will host a Food Truck on the M&T / OBPA Community Lot and will collect non-perishable food items to benefit the Orwigsburg Food Pantry. For every donation to the Pantry, free hot chocolate and cookies will be given.

As tradition will have it, Orwigsburg’s Lamplighter will officially “light” the Community Christmas Tree and the many lighted shrubs, trees, and posts that adorn the 2-block length of Centre Square, thus kicking off the holiday season.

Santa Claus has received a special invitation to make an early visit to Orwigsburg on this night. Orwigsburg Police will escort the “jolly one” into town and around Centre Square aboard a Friendship Hose Company fire truck.

Health precautions have postponed the usual horse-drawn trolley ride for children; but, Santa and the Fire Department will be found at one of the fun stops on the tour.



#### ***Night of Lights Tour 2020***

Immediately after the lighting of Centre Square and the arrival of Santa, residents and visitors are invited to take the Orwigsburg “Night of Lights Tour” in their own vehicles from 5:30 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Planned and hosted by the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library, the tour takes the place of the Holly Trail of interior-decorated homes put on by the Library for the past 38 years – almost as long as the Library’s existence. This year’s “Night of Lights Tour” is a fundraiser for the Library, costing \$25 per vehicle and includes a map showing the location of the featured houses and other designated stops.

Tickets can be purchased in advance, starting now, at the Orwigsburg Library, 216 W. Independence

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## 2020 BOROUGH OFFICIALS

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Due to COVID-19 precautions and until further notice, Orwigsburg Borough Council meets the Second Wednesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. "remotely" via Zoom on the Internet. The meeting agenda will be posted on the Borough website by noon the day of the meeting. Members of the public may view the proceedings. Request a link to the meeting by emailing [rmiller@orwigsburg.gov](mailto:rmiller@orwigsburg.gov) prior to noon the day of the meeting.

### OFFICIAL BOROUGH HOLIDAYS

Orwigsburg Borough offices and services will be closed on the following days in 2020 in observance of the stated holidays - New Year's Day, Jan. 1; Good Friday, April 10; Memorial Day, May 25; Independence Day, July 3 (observed); Labor Day, Sept. 7; Veterans' Day, Nov. 11; Thanksgiving, Nov. 26 and 27; Christmas Eve and Day, Dec. 24 and 25.

## Night of Lights

- Continued from Page 1

St. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. A holiday wreath and basket raffle is ongoing now through Dec. 5 at the Library.

For last minute participants, the Library will be open prior to and immediately following the Community Tree lighting on Saturday, Dec. 5 for ticket purchase. A ticket table will also be located near the Community Tree during the lighting. In order to keep tour vehicles and participants at stop locations separated, each vehicle ticket will designate the starting point for that group on the map.

Fun for all ages, every stop will have a special theme, game, activity, gift or door prize opportunity. Santa and his sleigh will be at one of the locations. Another promises to have live special guests from Arendelle Kingdom. Appropriately distanced photo opportunities will be made available. One thing is certain, surprises will delight at every location.

### Holly Jolly Card Game

A Holly Jolly Card Game (similar to a Poker Run) could net one lucky vehicle big bucks! Every vehicle will receive a playing card at each of the five decorated homes. The best Poker hand arriving back to the Library by 9 p.m. Saturday evening will win a "Night of Lights Tour" wreath filled with \$100 worth of PA Lottery tickets.



Want more fun? Planning details are still being finalized, including a "car decorating contest" for vehicle participants. Late-breaking information will be posted on the "Orwigsburg Library Night of Lights" Facebook page.

All participants are urged to wear masks and socially distance when outside their vehicle during stops.



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# Orwigsburg Police Department

## What Is Proper Use of Police Force?

There has been a lot said regarding police use-of-force over the last six months. So much so that cities and states are banning certain force options and legislating circumstances when law enforcement can use force options.

But what exactly are police taught and what is the standard for using force? Use-of-force in the United States is heavily influenced by the Supreme Court case *Graham v Connor* (1989) that states that an officer's decision to use force must be reasonable.

Chief Justice William Rehnquist's majority opinion stated the "reasonableness" of a particular use of force must be judged from the perspective of a reasonable officer on the scene. Its calculus must allow that police officers are often forced to make split-second decisions about the amount of force necessary in a particular situation.

Take two examples - an NFL linebacker or an unarmed 5' 8" 180 pound male, known by the officer to hold a black belt in jujitsu, charges an officer. It would likely be justified to shoot them - even if they're unarmed. Courts realize police must make split second life-or-death decisions and judge cases accordingly.

If a combative subject is reaching into his/her pocket and pulls out a metallic object, it may be a gun, knife, or cellphone. Courts are generally sympathetic

to the decision an officer must make in that moment. When an officer decides to discharge a firearm, the intent is to always neutralize the threat rather than to kill. It may take multiple shots to neutralize someone such as that NFL linebacker, someone high on drugs, or someone who's high on adrenaline.

The Orwigsburg Police Department is committed to having highly trained and qualified officers who will utilize the minimum amount of force necessary to control a subject. At OPD, we have many force options at our disposal such as batons, pepper spray, tasers, handguns, shotguns, and AR-15's.

While there's no legal requirement, all officers are certified every three years in using batons, pepper spray, and handcuffs. Per Taser standards, all officers are recertified annually. State law requires that we qualify with our firearms once a year.

At OPD we qualify once per year, but have multiple other firearm training days. Our officers frequently go to the gun range for practice. Our departmental use-of-force policy is re-evaluated every year to account for changes in statutory and case laws. It is then reviewed with all officers.

- Officer Robert Bechtel, Orwigsburg P.D.



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## Message from the Council President

### Health and Safety are Job #1 for Municipalities

At the beginning of 2020, nobody would have thought we would be fighting this COVID-19 virus and all the daunting challenges that it brought - not only to our community, but throughout the United States. This virus is scary and life changing.



**RICK BUBECK**  
Council President

I'm sure everyone has had their fill coping with all these challenges. There's one thing we all need to remember - DO NOT become complacent. This virus does not pick or choose who it affects. Follow the experts. Wear your mask, social distance, and wash your hands.

#### *Community support and gratitude*

It's important that our community continues to support our restaurants and small businesses. It's been a difficult and challenging time for each of them.

As a community, we wish to extend sincere thanks to all the essential workers who were critical in helping the rest of us cope with our concerns. But, let us also express gratitude to all those workers and volunteers who were designated, by necessity, as non-essential. All of these people are heroes.

Please send your thoughts and prayers to everyone who has been affected by this horrible virus.

#### *Safety and security is paramount*

As a municipality, public safety is always our first priority. Steps have been taken by our Street Department to improve pedestrian safety throughout the Market Street corridor. Pedestrian crossing signs have been placed on the east and west ends of Centre Square and bright-white hashed pedestrian crosswalk markings have been newly painted at intersections the length of Market Street.

**NOTE:** State Law requires motorists to yield to pedestrians when presenting themselves within the crosswalk area.

Those of you who live in or own rental property in Orwigsburg Borough, Council has recently amended its Rental Property Ordinance to require rental inspections by our Code Officer prior to a new tenant occupying any rental space. If you feel you are living in unsafe conditions, contact the Borough Office for assistance.

With the leadership of Police Chief John Koury and Mayor Barry Berger, our community has a strong, competent, and well-trained police force. Our police officers are an extremely important part of our community. They are responsible for ensuring the "safety and security" of all residents. Remember to thank a police officer for keeping us safe.

#### *Also, thank a firefighter*

It takes a dedicated and committed volunteer to be a firefighter and a first responder. Our volunteer firefighters sacrifice many, many hours of training in all aspects of this service to the community, expecting nothing in return.

It takes, on average, 200 hours of training to become a qualified firefighter. In addition, much time is spent away from family supporting the needs of the fire company by helping with fundraisers and attending meetings. All of this is given with no personal compensation, other than knowing the safety and protection of the community is ensured.

Our fire company depends on its annual fund drive mail solicitation to generate income to support its needs. On average, these mail drives net a return of 19%. We can do better!

So please, when you receive your fund solicitation in the mail, express your gratitude by sending a donation, to whatever extent possible, to help these first responders when emergencies call them to action. When the bell rings or their pagers go off, our volunteer heroes are running and jumping in their boots to aid and protect the citizens of our community.

#### *Last word*

The Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday seasons are right around the corner. Take time for family and friends. Stay safe and share a little love.

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# Proclamation From the Orwigsburg Mayor

## View the World from a Higher Perspective

Greetings citizens and friends of Orwigsburg. We've all been trying our hardest to make the most of this odd situation.



**BARRY J. BERGER**  
Mayor

Some of the lessons aren't too difficult to comprehend. Some jobs and professions are completely compatible with remote function, assuming that a competent and motivated person is filling that position. Similarly, portions of proper education can be delivered by electronic device under the same assumption.

On the other hand, a great many things still need direct, physical contact to be adequately provided. Very little in the way of proper medical attention can be offered without personal interaction. Your plumber can't fix your sink from a smart phone. And children still need face-to-face contact with their peers in order to form the social skills they need to be successful in life.

Unfortunately, every issue these days seems to have at least two divergent opinions stoked by split camps in politics and news media. The "hits", the

"likes", the "tweets", and all the other social media drivers compound the speed of dispersal and inaccuracy of facts.

I had a bit of a revelation through the courtesy of my brother, Jim. He's in a partnership that shares a nice, single-engine Cessna aircraft. He flew up from Virginia to visit this past weekend. We enjoyed an autumn aerial tour of southern Schuylkill County.

It was the first that I've flown over our area since his last offer more than thirty years ago. That was a winter flight with heavy snow cover. The contrast of that cold, stark and white view to today's vibrantly hued landscape was remarkable. The growth in development, industry, and agriculture was also plainly apparent.

The revelation, though, was a different factor. It came to me that a higher perspective has the potential to lead us down a brighter path. An elevated view shows a broader picture even though some of the detail gets blurred.

Maybe some elevated cooperation would yield more widespread benefit even though we might each have to give in a little. Maybe turning off the pundits, shutting down the news and social media, engaging our fellow citizens and considering their positions may afford us a more functional society.

- Barry J. Berger, Orwigsburg Mayor



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# Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library

## Your Library Serves You In So Many Ways

Although the world is learning to operate a little differently due to the challenges that we all face, the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library, 216 W. Independence St., is open six days per week for patrons. Hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday, 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.



Contrary to that old slogan, at the Orwigsburg Library we have found "you CAN teach an old dog new tricks." We continue to provide programs in many new and different formats.

### Online and in-person access

Knitters are gathering Monday afternoons at 4:30. Tuesday Story Time can be found on the Library's YouTube Channel. Check out staff and special guest readers reading stories. Many of the stories being read have craft bags waiting at the Library for young children to follow along.

A new service - Beanstack - is a 24/7 "virtual" experience that has activities for all ages. Go to: [pottsvillelibrary.beanstack.org/](http://pottsvillelibrary.beanstack.org/). And, don't forget e-books ... the Library is always open!

Book Club meets the last Monday of the month at 6 p.m. via ZOOM - and the discussions have been

lively! Gypsy the therapy dog is lined up to visit on Thursday, Nov. 19 and Dec. 17 at 4 p.m.

Coloring with Chris takes place on the first Thursday each month at 4 p.m. and Adult Crafting for the holidays will be featured on two upcoming Saturdays - Nov. 21 and Dec. 19 - from 1 to 2 p.m.

### Night of Lights Tour is Dec. 5

Please help support the programming of the Orwigsburg Area Free Public Library and celebrate the holiday season safely with your whole family. Replacing the traditional Holly Trail this year will be the Orwigsburg "Night of Lights Tour" - a vehicle tour - on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 5:30 to 8 p.m., immediately following the lighting of Centre Square. More details can be found in the front page article of this newsletter issue.



216 W. INDEPENDENCE ST.

Tickets are on sale now at the Library. While here, take a raffle chance on one or more holiday wreaths and themed baskets on display. Winners will be chosen on December 5.



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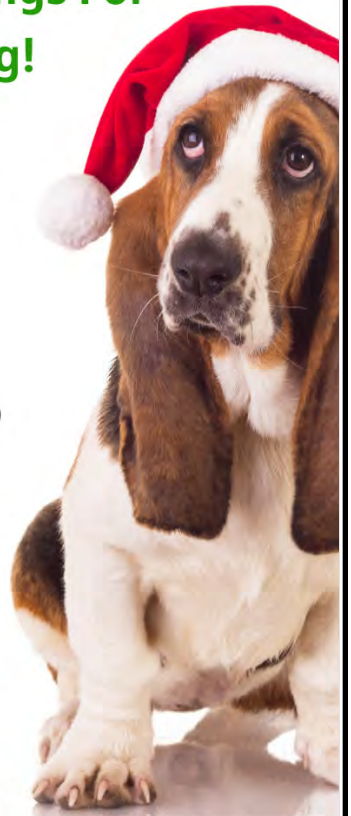
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## State Sen. David Argall

### Demo Grant Fights Blight

Schuylkill County communities have been awarded \$1.44 million in state grants for demolition of blighted properties - thanks to a long, bipartisan effort I coordinated with State Representatives Jerry Knowles, Mike Tobash, and Neil Goodman.



**Senator  
David Argall**

This money is earmarked for buildings in a state of disrepair beyond rehabilitation. Buildings like this can be the most difficult to grapple with for communities, because many potential buyers are hesitant to make the investment necessary to demolish the building and then build a new structure.

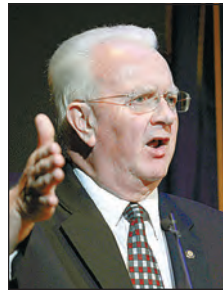
Blight affects us all. It lowers our property values, strains the real estate market, hurts our schools, breeds crime, and poses a serious threat to our safety and well-being. Congratulations to the Orwigsburg community for its dedication on this issue. I'm hopeful that a portion of the \$1.44 million will assist you in your ongoing blight-fighting efforts.

While Orwigsburg does not suffer from this problem to the same extent as many other communities in our region, no community is immune to blight. Keep up the good work!

## State Rep. Jerry Knowles

### Apply for LIHEAP Help

Residents struggling to pay home heating bills can begin applying for assistance from the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) as of November 2. This program runs until April 9, 2021.



**Representative  
Jerry Knowles**

The federally funded LIHEAP program helps individuals and families pay their heating bills through home heating energy assistance cash grants that are sent directly to your fuel/utility provider. The program also includes crisis grants should there be an emergency or if a resident is in danger of losing his or her heat due to broken equipment, lack of fuel, or termination of utility service.

The income limit for an individual is \$19,140; for a couple, the limit is \$25,860; and for a family of four, it is \$39,300. The grant award amounts vary from \$200 to \$1,000 depending upon income, fuel source, and household size.

Residents may apply for LIHEAP online or by contacting your County Assistance Office. You may also stop by my office located at 202 E. Broad St., Tamqua, or call at 570-668-1240, if you need assistance with completing your LIHEAP application.

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# Veterans Community Memorial Hall

## Despite Pandemic, Renovation Process Revs Up Again

Final interior construction work and completion of upgrades to the Veterans Community Memorial Hall have ground to a near stop in 2020. This is primarily due to the COVID-19 pandemic and shutdown of state offices and other agencies for many months.

The exterior reconstruction, upgrades to all mechanical systems, and vast interior improvements have been completed over the past several years. Memorial Hall is open and being utilized by the community.

Awaited funding will allow the following final phase work to be done - additional interior work to the main gym area and meeting room; kitchen improvements, including new appliances/equipment and improved storage to create a catering kitchen of approximately 500 square feet; a permanent office and meeting space for local veteran organizations, including the VFW and American Legion; and the Veterans Foyer, a fitting space visitors will be immersed within when entering the Memorial Hall.

The Veterans Foyer "Hall of Honor" will feature a Veterans Honor Board, listing all submitted and otherwise known local veterans by name and conflict era. All contributors to the Veterans Community Memorial Hall renovations, including individuals, businesses

and non-profits, will be recognized. Also to be placed in the foyer will be the original Orwigsburg Court House clock cupola, currently under restoration by the Schuylkill Masonic Lodge.

These remaining improvements have been listed in every issue of *Orwigsburg Happenings* during 2020, but little progress has been made.

The reason? - A \$750,000 grant, through the state Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) was approved by PA Governor Tom Wolf in 2018.

The scope of work, appraisal, and revised budget was submitted in November 2019. Interim financing for the project was arranged by the Borough and received in late December. The state indicated acceptability in January 2020. The virus pandemic then hit and progress to get final project approval slowed to a crawl. No timeframe for review completion or final contract signature has been given.

In the last several weeks, State Representative Jerry Knowles has been asked to reach out to the State for a direct RACP status update. We are very happy to report that the Governor's Budget Office staff is reviewing the land appraisal and in-kind contributions. As soon as that appraisal is completed, the RACP application should move to final approval along with the other grants that are in line for the final approval stage.

All are confident that the process will again be moving forward in the near future. Once the official signed agreement is received, the bid documents can be prepared and ready to issue within 4-6 weeks.

The Borough is still hopeful that the bid might be ready this fall or winter of 2021. Construction is anticipated to begin in the spring of 2021 and should be completed in approximately one year from start.

The Veterans Development Taskforce seeks additional contributions to bring the project to successful completion. Send contributions to: Orwigsburg Veterans Memorial Development Taskforce, P.O. Box 157, Orwigsburg, PA 17961.



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# Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum

## Your Membership & Support for OHS Preserves the Past

The Orwigsburg Historical Society (OHS) and Museum, located at 109 E. Mifflin St., proclaims its ongoing mission to preserve a legacy for our children.

The public is welcome to tour the facility and view its collection on Tuesday and Thursday each week from noon until 4 p.m. Arrangements for other times can be made by appointment. Contact the Society by calling 570-627-7809 or 570-366-8769 for more information regarding visits or services.

### Trace Sch. County heritage in 2021

Join us for our popular "Tracing Schuylkill County's Heritage" program series in 2021. Beginning in April and running through September, the Society will host a series of high-interest, free public programs on the second Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Community Room of OHS. Designed to inform, entertain, and enlighten, these programs are open to all ages. So feel free to bring the kids!

### Support local history, be a member

In addition to restoring and revitalizing the former Friendship Hose Co. No.1 firehouse and our town's "Old Jail," the Orwigsburg Historical Society provides free public programs on local history topics, conducts genealogy and property searches, houses a research library, and maintains a museum filled with local artifacts that tell the story of Orwigsburg and

Southern Schuylkill County's rich cultural heritage and history!

OHS exists, and continues to operate, thanks to donations and annual membership contributions from people and businesses, past and present, that consider the Orwigsburg region their hometown or adopted new town.

With the start of the new year approaching, won't you please consider a membership in the OHS? Memberships start at \$20 for an individual, \$25 for a family, and \$50 for a business membership. Any denomination is greatly appreciated and desperately needed to preserve our historical collection.

Mail your contribution - made payable to "Orwigsburg Historical Society & Museum" - to 109 East Mifflin St., Orwigsburg, PA 17961.

All current members receive free genealogy searches, invitations to special programs, reduced admissions to special events, rental of the museum & "Community Center," and a 25% discount on museum store purchases! Please mention membership at time of purchase.

### Volunteers needed!

The Society is in need of volunteers for garden work, museum cleaning, painting, and moving displays. If you can lend a hand, please call 570-366-8769. We love student volunteers!



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# Borough Services Update . . . and Events!

## Veterans Day "on the square"

Veterans Day services in Bicentennial Park, corner of N. Liberty St. and Market Street at the western end of Centre Square, always mark the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month - Wednesday, Nov. 11 this year. Please plan to be a part of this solemn event. Being an official holiday for workers, all Orwigsburg Borough operations will be closed on Veterans Day. Refuse collection will not be affected by this holiday.

## Lions Club H.E.L.P.

Are you or a loved one in need of any of these items to aid in recovery from illness or surgery?

- Wheelchair
- Walker - stationary & folding
- Hospital bed - manual & electric
- Cane - single and multi-legged
- Crutches
- Shower seat
- Bedside commode/bedpan
- Over-toilet seat with handrails
- Temporary tub hand rail
- Recliner chair with auto-lift seat



The Orwigsburg Lions' "Health Equipment Loan Program" (HELP) provides these items to local residents at no charge as a community service. To arrange a loan, call Larry Dagna at 570-617-6149

## Monthly large item pickup

One large item (furniture, etc.) may be placed at the curb beside your regular trash once per month. The collection date is the second Tuesday of each month for residents on Market Street and north ... and the Friday following the second Tuesday for residents south of Market Street.

Residents should place trash at the curb any time after 6 p.m. on evenings prior to collection. Because pickup times vary, do not wait until the morning of collection to place garbage.

Month	Tues.	Fri.
Nov.	10	13
Dec.	8	11
Jan.	12	15
Feb.	9	12

## LARGE ITEM PICKUP DATES

Construction materials (shingles, drywall, cabinets, insulation, etc.) may not be placed at the curb with your regular trash. You must get a dumpster which can be leased from the borough's trash collector, County Waste, at 570-874-3047.

## Holiday refuse/recycling collection

The Borough contracts with County Waste for the weekly collection of refuse and biweekly recycling collection. Curbside collection is on Tuesday for properties on Market Street and north ... and on Friday for properties south of Market Street.



## Country Beverage, Inc.

**107 Rt. 183 North • Schuylkill Haven**  
 Conveniently Located on Rt. 183, Just North of the Rt. 443 Intersection  
**570-739-3610**



**HOURS: Mon - Sat 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.**  
**Sunday 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.**

**LARGE SELECTION  
 OF CRAFT  
 DOMESTIC &  
 IMPORTS**

**NOW SELLING  
 6 PACKS and  
 SINGLES**

**Now Serving - ADULT SLUSHIES!**

## LEHR'S FEED & FARM SUPPLY

**DO YOU LIKE TO FEED THE WILDLIFE IN YOUR BACKYARD?**  
**WE MIX ALL OUR WILDLIFE FEEDS RIGHT HERE IN PINE GROVE.**



Frequent Buyer Cards (Get one bag FREE when card is filled) for our **Wildbird Feed** and **Shelled & Cracked Corn**. See store for details.

We have five Wildbird mixes - Backyard Blend, Premium Blend, Cardinal Deluxe, Dove Blend, Finches Delight - all formulated to not end up on the ground under your feeder.

Our Corn & Wildlife Grains are huge favorites among Wildlife enthusiasts.

**10 Snyder Ave., Pine Grove, PA (570) 345-3309**

(610) 587-8709  
(570) 968-4096

**24 Hour Emergency  
Towing**



## A & K Towing Service LLC

**PA State Inspections, Automotive Repairs**  
**Auto Body & Detailing For All Vehicles**

605 Industrial Drive  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

(570) 968-4099 fax  
Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30-5:00



# Borough Services Update . . . and Events!

Pickup will be delayed one day for residents with Friday pickup due to the Thanksgiving holiday. That pickup for properties south of Market Street will be on Saturday, Nov. 28.

Christmas and New Year holidays fall on a Friday this year. Tuesday collection on December 22 and December 29 will not be affected. Normal Friday pickup both weeks will move to Saturday, Dec. 26 during Christmas week and Saturday, January 2 in the new year.

Cut Christmas trees will be picked up curbside on scheduled days, a part of your normal trash collection, after the holidays. Trees should be void of ornaments, stands, or needle collection bags.

## Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry

Distribution of food for the needy from the Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry, operating from St. John's UCC, 232 East Market St., will continue for the foreseeable future as a drive-thru on the third Saturday of each month. Cars are to line up on Market St to Sherman St. between the hours of 9 and 11 a.m., weather permitting. All cancellations will be announced on our Facebook page, T-102 radio station, or on the St John's UCC sign across from the church entrance. Pet food and children's books will be available as long as the supply lasts.

Non-perishables or monetary donations are always needed. Call the Pantry at 570-366-2255 for more information, need, or to help in any way.

## Borough Office now open to the public

Following a several month closure due to COVID-19 orders, the Orwigsburg Borough Office, 209 N. Warren St., is again open to the public for bill-paying or other business matters during regular hours - Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Visitors are asked to wear a face mask, enter through the front door only, and observe signs indicating traffic flow and number of occupants allowed at any one time.

## You're invited to Public Meetings

Orwigsburg Borough Council continues to meet only once each month on the second Wednesday. Meetings are physically closed until restrictions are lifted. Council members and Borough officials "meet" remotely via internet utilizing Zoom.

The public is invited to "attend" virtually. Register by emailing a request to Borough Manager Randy Miller at [rmiller@orwigsburg.gov](mailto:rmiller@orwigsburg.gov) no later than noon the day of the meeting. A return email will be sent to you with the link and related information to connect to the meeting. You will have the opportunity to submit public comment through the Zoom Q&A feature or by submitting an email prior to the meeting.

The meeting agenda will be posted no later than noon the day of the meeting at Borough Hall, 209 N. Warren St., and on the Borough's website at [Orwigsburg.gov](http://Orwigsburg.gov).



Are you worried about your child's preschool education?

Wondering how you can afford to pay for a quality program for your child?

Child Development, Inc. is continuing to provide connections to our families and children during this difficult time. We are also connecting with families to enroll their preschool children for the upcoming school year.

We understand your income may have been lowered or lost totally and we may be able to help. Our preschool programming is absolutely Free. You may contact us at our website or phone number and our caring staff will help guide you through the enrollment process. Child Development, Inc. wants to ensure families from all over Schuylkill County have access to a quality preschool education for their children.

**A Virtual Option Is Available!**

**1-800-433-3370 ext. 212**

or you can see more about Child Development, Inc. preschool programs by visiting our website at [www.childdevelop.org](http://www.childdevelop.org) like our Facebook page

**Child Development, Inc. (Schuylkill County, PA)**

You will also find great resources and activities for your child.

Proud member of the Schuylkill United Way



Providing Year Round Comfort



**CALL US AT 570-366-1275**



Like us on Facebook

**WWW.HBSTEELEOIL.COM**

17 Municipal Road • PO Box 375 • Orwigsburg, PA 17961 • PA9761

# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

## St. Paul's Lutheran

Located at 215 North Warren Street in Orwigsburg, St. Paul's Lutheran Church welcomes all to worship and take part in their faith community.

Information on up-coming events and activities can be found on our Facebook page, our website: [www.stpauls-orwigsburg.com](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.com), or by calling the church office at 570-366-2316. Our church office is open Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. to noon.



In-person worship services are held each Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 8 and 10:30 a.m. Holy Communion is shared the first weekend of every month and COVID-19 precautions (hand sanitizing, facemasks, and social distancing) are observed. Worship videos can be viewed each week on our Facebook

page at [StPaulsOrwigsburg](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsOrwigsburg) or on YouTube.

The Men of St. Paul's will host a "drive-by" Chili

and Soup Sale on Saturday, Nov. 14, at 9 a.m. "on the square" in Orwigsburg at the M&T Community Parking Lot. Breads and other baked goods will also be on sale.

This year, St. Paul's will present an on-line Christmas concert featuring our Chancel and Bell Choirs. This video will be available on or around Sunday, Dec. 20.

In-person Christmas Eve services will be held at 5, 9, and 11 p.m. on Thursday, December 24. Candle lighting and Holy Communion will be shared at each service. COVID-19 precautions and distancing will be in effect. Due to limited seating, those wishing to attend must call the church office to reserve assigned seats for themselves and family members by Sunday, Dec. 20.

The Men of St. Paul's will host a "Souper Bowl Eve" Chili and Soup Sale on Saturday, Feb. 6 beginning at 9 a.m. "on the square" in Orwigsburg at the Community Parking Lot.

Due to the uncertainties of COVID-19 and inclement weather conditions, please check our Facebook page, website, or call our office for changes and updates to our schedule.

## St. John's UCC

St. John's United Church of Christ in Orwigsburg welcomes everyone to worship in our beautiful sanctuary or via our website at [www.stjohnorwigsburg.org](http://www.stjohnorwigsburg.org).

Worship is held every Sunday at 10 a.m. and the service can be viewed later that afternoon on the website. Please wear a mask for worship inside. Sunday school has resumed for children in kindergarten through sixth grade.



The Orwigsburg Area Food Pantry has been a part of St. John's outreach mission for over 40 years and is housed at the church. Many dedicated volunteers help each month to pack and distribute boxes of food for

## Salem United Methodist Church



**Transforming Lives Through Christ (TLC)**

*Sharing, Serving, Worshiping, Nurturing*

**133 S. Liberty St. Orwigsburg**

**[www.SalemUM.com](http://www.SalemUM.com) 570-366-0201**

Sunday Worship – 8:45 Traditional • 10:45 Contemporary • 6:30 pm Coffee Style

**A PAID NURSERY ATTENDANT IS AVAILABLE  
FROM 8:30 a.m. TO 12:30 p.m.**

**Nov. 7 – NEW!! Canvas Cafe' (Register on Church Webpage)**  
Saturday – 9:30 to 12 Noon

**Dec. 4 – Family Christmas Movie Night**  
Friday – 5:30 to 7:30 p.m.

**Dec. 13 – The God Squad Christmas Performance**  
Sunday – 8:45 and 10:45 a.m.

**Dec. 13 – SNL Meal & Movie Night – 6 p.m.**

**Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Worship** **Events Could Change! Check Website**  
Thursday – 4, 7, & 9 p.m.

**Bible Study Opportunities – See Church Web Page**



**MAMMOTH MATERIALS**

**SITE OFFICE: Rt. 901, Minersville**

**570-544-8245**

**GET YOUR GARDEN AND  
LANDSCAPE SUPPLIES NOW!**

**MULCH • TOPSOIL**

**CRUSHED STONE**

**DECORATIVE STONE • ROCK**

**WE HAVE RICE, BUCK, NUT AND PEA COAL BULK AND  
BAGS-PICK UP ONLY! STOP IN OR CALL FOR DETAILS.**

**Mon.-Fri. 8 to 4; Sat. 8 to 3**





# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

residents of a large geographical area. Distribution is the third Saturday each month from 9 to 11 a.m. and presently is done by drive-thru only. Recipients are asked to remain in their cars and to wear masks. A volunteer will load the groceries into the car.

St. John's sponsors many community activities throughout the year. Due to COVID-19, many activities are on hold. Scheduling will be posted on Facebook and the church website. Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts have used the facility to hold meetings and special events for decades, and St. John's is proud to sponsor this active part of our community.

Contact the church office at 570-366-2255 with any questions and to leave a message.

## Faith Church

Faith Church, located next to Ark Rentals at 1168 Centre Turnpike (Rt. 61), welcomes all to worship and to be part of our church family. Faith is open for in-person worship on Sundays at 10 a.m. with CDC guidelines in place. Or, join the worship through live-streaming online at [www.atfaithchurch.com](http://www.atfaithchurch.com). Past Sunday services are also available on the website.

Pastor Doug Cresswell's current series is "How To Have A Faith That Works When Life Doesn't" with the goal to assist all while this viral pandemic is wreaking havoc on our families and our lifestyles. Our jobs, our homes, our restaurants, our stores, our schools and, surprisingly, even our churches have been hit by the pandemic. Faith Church is aggressively re-creat-



ing church for the "pandemic weary" population of Schuylkill County. We can't just sit back and take it; we want to offer people alternatives to help ease the stress.

The approaching winter season is welcomed with some of the most beautiful displays of God's creation you will ever see in the magnificent color of our fall foliage. If we could just pause and enjoy this beauty it can do much in calming even the most stressful of times.

New outreach programs are underway. Our county-wide Campaign of Coats, under the leadership of Lana McDuff, is now taking donations of new and gently used coats and will distribute to those in need. Ann Kirby is heading a letter-writing effort to honor and encourage hospitalized vets at the VA. With a goal of 100 letters, she needs others from our community to help send love and appreciation thoughts so these heroes are not forgotten.

**WELCOMING** all with God's love,  
**STRENGTHENING** individuals for life's journey,  
**BLESSING** our wider community



## ZION'S RED CHURCH

**1287 Centre Turnpike  
Orwigsburg**

**[www.zionsredchurch.com](http://www.zionsredchurch.com)**

*Caring for Families since 1755!*

**SUNDAY WORSHIP – 10:30 a.m.**

**SUNDAYS THROUGH NOVEMBER**

**Join Us for Bible Study at 1:00 p.m.**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**

**THURSDAY, DEC. 24**

**2:00 p.m. – Afternoon Service  
with Holy Communion**

**7:00 p.m. – Evening Candlelight Service  
with Holy Communion**

**\*Online worship experiences available\***

**See our article for more details!**



179 Pine Creek Drive  
Orwigsburg, PA  
[www.kimmelschurch.org](http://www.kimmelschurch.org)  
570.943.2759

**Join Us!**

**Sunday Worship Service**

**In-Person & Live Stream - 10 am**

**Advent Sermon Series Begins November 29**

*(Services stream on Kimmels Facebook Page)*

**Holly Trail**

**Cookies & Hot Chocolate Drive Thru Stop**

**December 5 - 5:30 pm to 8 pm**

**Christmas Eve Service**

**December 24 - 6:30 pm**

*Small Group Studies Meet Virtually on Wednesdays & Thursdays  
Please call for additional details (570-943-2759)*

# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

All of our Youth and Children's Ministries have re-booted since the restrictions of the COVID-19 pandemic. Our Youth Pastor, Josh Ball, has organized an exciting mid-week group that meets in the Youth Center every Wednesday evening at 6 p.m.

God bless you and no matter what you face, always understand "God is in control."

## Salem UMC



Salem United Methodist Church—where Liberty and Independence meet—offers three unique worship services each Sunday with a traditional worship at 8:45 a.m., a contemporary worship at 10:45 a.m., and the SNL Coffeehouse at 6:30 p.m. A paid

nursery attendant is on staff from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The church is accessible to the physically challenged through ramps and a chair lift.

Both Sunday morning worship services are live streamed on Facebook at [SalemChurchOrwigsburg](https://www.facebook.com/SalemChurchOrwigsburg) and also uploaded to Facebook and our website [www.SalemUM.com](http://www.SalemUM.com) every week for viewing at your convenience.

Please join us at our upcoming special events and services. We observe current safety guidelines. Our next Movie Night will offer a Christmas-themed movie on Friday, Dec. 4 starting at 5:30 p.m. November 22 is our Thank Offering Sunday to support the Orwigsburg Food Pantry with gifts and food. December 13 is our Christmas Bell Sunday provided by The God Squad at both morning worship times. That same evening, SNL Meal and Movie Night kicks off at 6 pm.

Looking for a church for worship on Christmas Eve? Salem offers three unique worship services that are open to all. It starts at 4 p.m. for those with young children, those that don't like to be out at night, and those that have evening family activities. This is followed with a 7 p.m. service when our Praise Band plays. Finally, our 9 p.m. is for the traditionalist. All three worship times end with a candle-lighting representing the Light of Christ coming into our dark world.

Ahead in the New Year, our annual Soup and Bake Sale will be held on Saturday, Feb. 13 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

## Zion's Red Church

Welcome to Zion's Red Church, the oldest congregation located in the heart of southern Schuylkill County. We're a shared ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the United Church of Christ located at 1287 Centre Turnpike (Route 61). Worship services are held every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. with the Rev. Ken Melber, Jr.

In a world where we can no longer take anything for granted and where we do not know where to turn, we are called again to look to the God who comes to live life among us. We are called once again to hear the story of a God who came, in the person of Jesus Christ, into a messed up world to bring life, peace, and salvation.

Zion's Red Church invites you to join us for this Christmas celebration on December 24 with services at 2 and 7 p.m. as we proclaim God's kingdom come



## FAITH CHURCH

*loving God – loving people - serving the community*

Senior Pastor Doug Cresswell

1168 Centre Turnpike

(next to Ark Rentals)

Orwigsburg, PA 17961

570-366-5131

Online Service

Available

Weekly

Celebration

Service

Sunday 10 a.m.

[www.atfaithchurch.com](http://www.atfaithchurch.com)



## St. John's United Church of Christ

232 E. Market St., Orwigsburg • 570-366-2255

*Spirit filled worship for contemporary souls*

**Online Worship Services at**  
**[StJohnOrwigsburg.org](http://StJohnOrwigsburg.org)**

Check our Facebook page, website, or church sign for information.

In-person worship at 10 a.m. (Please wear a mask)



# A Town's Spirit Reflected Through Its Churches

down to earth. Both services will be in the sanctuary and are handicap accessible.

Contact our church office at (570) 366-1178 for information about our Sunday service, Bible study sessions, church rental spaces, or other events. Find us online at [zionsredchurch.com](http://zionsredchurch.com) or join our Facebook page.

Livestreams and other online resources can be found at the website for Friedens Lutheran Church, our sister congregation, at [NRLP.org](http://NRLP.org).

## Kimmels Church

For most of us 2020 has been a life-changing year where our normal routine has been turned upside down. All our hopes and plans have been forced to change, and we are left with the unknown. It has brought a sense of confusion, fear, questions, and has challenged our ability to hope.

All are invited to worship at Kimmels Church, 179 Pine Creek Drive just off Kimmels Road on the eastern side of Orwigsburg, this Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday season and to be a part of our church family at any of our activities.

Our Sunday Christmas services this year begin November 29 and follow each Sunday through Christ-

mas. Learn more about this hope of Jesus from our series "The Cast of Christmas." Services begin at 10 a.m. and are available in-person or watch them live on our Facebook page.

Don't forget to set aside your Christmas Eve to be our guests at a special service beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sing some carols and listen to our singers share the message of Christmas through song. Join in the candlelight portion of our service as we celebrate Jesus Christ and His gift.

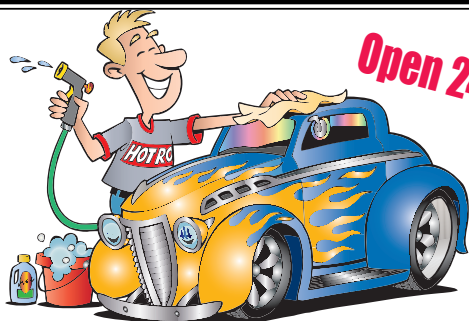
Once again, Kimmels Church will be a scheduled



stop along the Orwigsburg Library's "Night of Lights Tour" on Saturday evening, Dec. 5. A tour ticket for your vehicle is required and available at the Library now. The stop at Kimmels is always a memorable one when taking in the sights, sounds, and smells of Christmas. See our lights, listen to our carolers, and enjoy the best refreshments, handmade just for you. Best of

all, let us help you begin to prepare your heart for this coming Christmas season.

For more information about these and other events, visit our website at [kimmelschurch.org](http://kimmelschurch.org) or contact our church office during the week at 570-943-2759. We hope to see you very soon. God bless!



**Open 24/7!**

## MARKET STREET WASH RITE

718 West Market Street  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

**Touchless Automatic with Rain X  
Spot Free Rinse!**

**570-366-3740**

**The Best Carwash In Town!**

**Powerful Vacuums with Scent  
Need Air? – We've Got It!**

**Gift and Fleet Cards Available**

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church

215 North Warren Street • Orwigsburg

**570-366-2316**

[www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org](http://www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org)

**Handicap  
Accessible**



### Worship Times

Saturday 5:30 p.m.

Sundays at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Men of St. Paul's **"DRIVE-UP" CHILI & SOUP SALE**  
Saturday, Nov. 14 – 9 a.m. (On the Square)

**"ON-LINE" CHRISTMAS CONCERT**  
featuring St. Paul's Chancel and Bell Choirs  
Video Available – Sun., Dec. 20 – On Website

**IN-PERSON CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
Thursday, Dec. 24 – 5, 9, and 11 p.m.

Candle Lighting & Holy Communion at Each Service  
(Reserved Seating a Must – Deadline Sunday, Dec. 20)

**"SOUPER BOWL EVE" CHILI/SOUP SALE**  
Saturday, Feb. 6 – 9 a.m.  
"On the Square" – Men of St. Paul's





From where it all began  
... is happening again

209 N. Warren St.  
Orwigsburg, PA 17961

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of Orwigsburg Borough

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Lights Tour  
Dec. 5

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*A Friendly & Historic Community . . . Serving Its Residents • Welcoming Its Visitors*

## 2020 Remaining Holiday Schedule

*Orwigsburg Borough Offices will be closed  
the following days*

Wednesday - November 11th | Veterans Day

Thursday - November 26th

| Thanksgiving

Friday - November 27th

Thursday - December 24th

| Christmas

Friday - December 25th

Friday - January 1st | New Year's Day

*We wish you and your families a very safe and  
happy holiday season and look forward to a  
great new year of serving you.*

